

ABSTRACT

[00039] A lifter assembly is disclosed that includes a carriage comprising a frame structure that is pivotally mounted to the lifter. First and second rigid gripper arms are pivotally mounted to the frame structure so as to be generally in alignment and in spaced relation. A third gripper arm is pivotally mounted to the frame structure, and the first, second and third gripper arms are moveable between a first position in which the first and second gripper arms are spaced apart from third gripper for receiving the refuse receptacle, and the second position in which the first, second and third gripper arms lay generally flat against the frame structure for storage with the third gripper arm nesting between the first and second gripper arms. In a second embodiment, two opposed rigid gripper arms are pivotally mounted to the frame structure and the first gripper arm is shaped so that, when in the second position, the second gripper arm nests in the first gripper arm.